

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system comprising:  
schedule data storage means in which users' schedule data are stored;  
information service means, including an internet-based search engine, for providing users with first related information; and

related service search means that searches the information service means for information that relates that relate to the schedule data stored in the schedule data storage means and provides the information as the first related information; and

information service data storage means for storing second related information summarizing the first related information provided by the information service means;

wherein the related service search means includes means which, in response to ~~user~~ users' instructions to search related services or to consult schedule data, acquires the first related information from information service means ~~that relate to schedule data~~, and outputs ~~this the first related~~ information to the ~~users~~user; and

wherein the related service search means includes a means for searching the information service data storage means in response to users' instructions or control; and means for outputting to the users, along with the schedule data said first and second related information;

said first and second related information being other than schedule data of another user.

2. (cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1~~Claim-2~~, wherein the ~~aforementioned~~ information service data storage means includes means for:

storing information relating to the access address and access procedure for the information service means; and for

connecting to the information service means on the basis of the ~~aforementioned~~-access address and procedural information that have been retrieved by the related service search means.

4. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 3, which includes means for receiving schedule data related information from an information service means to which a connection has been established, and for outputting the received information along with the ~~aforementioned~~-schedule data.

5. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 4, which includes billing information storage means for receiving billing information from a connected information service means and for storing billing information for each user.

6. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, which comprises personal information storage means for storing personal information relating to users;

wherein the ~~aforementioned~~-related service search means includes means for using this personal information along with the schedule data to search the information service data storage means.

7. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, which includes user preferences extraction means for extracting information inferred — on the basis of schedule data input by a user or information relating to information service means provided by a user — to be of interest to the user, and for using the extracted information as part of the ~~aforementioned~~-personal information.

8. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, which includes means for acquiring information relating to the ~~aforementioned~~-personal information by connecting to an information service means found by the related service search means on the basis of the personal information stored in the personal information

storage means, and for storing this acquired information in the ~~aforementioned~~-user schedule data storage means as part of the schedule data ~~of the user in question~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~aforementioned~~-information service data storage means is provided with information service data registration means whereby the user can register information from an information service means.

10. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 6, which is provided with information service data acquisition means for searching, on the basis of the personal information stored in the personal information storage means, information service means that are in conformity with this personal information; and for storing, in the information service data storage means, information from the searched information service means.

11. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, which comprises:

means which, when there is information to be registered as schedule data with the schedule data storage means, requests transmission of the schedule data to the schedule data storage means; and

data transmit/receive means for receiving this schedule data, retrieving information congruent with the received schedule data, and transmitting the acquired information.

12. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1, which comprises:

display means for presenting the user with information acquired from an information service means;

animated character image generation means for generating animated character images for displaying on this display means; and

means for displaying the animated character images along with the ~~aforementioned~~ acquired information.

13. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 12, which comprises means for selecting a display scenario that is appropriate for the schedule data; and means which, in accordance with the movement pattern obtained by this display scenario selection means, displays the ~~aforementioned~~ animated character images and outputs what the character says.

14. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, wherein:  
client terminals are connected to a server via a network; and  
the ~~aforementioned~~ server contains the ~~aforementioned~~ schedule data storage means, related service search means, information service data storage means, and means for outputting to users information acquired from the information service means.

15. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 14, wherein the information service data storage means contains Internet location information as the address information for accessing the information service means.

16. (Currently Amended) A schedule information system according to Claim 1 ~~Claim 2~~, wherein the schedule information system ~~is~~ comprises a terminal connectable to ~~the~~ an information service means via a network; and  
~~said~~ this terminal includes the ~~aforementioned~~ schedule data storage means, related service search means, information service data storage means, and means for outputting to a user information acquired from ~~the~~ an information service means.

17. (Original) A schedule information system according to Claim 16, wherein the information service data storage means contains Internet location information as the address information for accessing the information service means.

18. (Previously Presented) A storage medium in which software has been stored, this software functioning as a schedule information system according to Claim 1, when installed in an information processing unit.